Approved For Release 2005/07/26 : CIA-RDP80M01048A001100120084-7

25 February 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: CIA Comment on NIPE Study, "The Effectiveness of ABM Collectors," and its Relationship to GMAIC Study Evaluating ABM Collectors.

Background

1. Studies on the effectiveness of collection systems targetted against the Soviet ABM program were produced last fall by both GMAIC and an ad hoc task force under D/DCI/NIPE.

2. Coverage of the two studies was not identical although [redacted] were surveyed in both reports. In at least one case [redacted] the recommendations disagreed. In addition, the methodology used in the NIPE Study was proposed for general community use in evaluating other collection programs.

3. The GMAIC report was reviewed and concurred in by the heads of all USIB agencies and forwarded to the Director for approval. The NIPE Study was prepared by an interagency task force on which the Agency representative came from O/PPB. It did not have the approval of the CIA line officers (DDI, DDP and DD/S&T) whose interests were directly affected by the Study. The D/DCI/NIPE circulated the NIPE Study to the heads of the other principal intelligence agencies for comment. No copy was put into command channels in CIA. Before you were willing to schedule a NIRB discussion of the NIPE Study you directed the DDI to prepare a coordinated CIA comment on the Study and its methodology and on its relationship with the GMAIC report.

4. The Director informed you that he would defer approval of the GMAIC recommendations until you had received the CIA review of the two studies and given him your views.

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5. The Agency review, approved by the three Deputy Directors, recommends as follows:

a. That you recommend that the Director sign the GMAIC report and that he direct [redacted] to release with it a Memorandum to the Holders which draws attention to the work being done by NIPE. STA

b. That you inform the D/DCI/NIPE that the Study offers promise but that it needs further testing before it can be accepted as a basis for authoritative community action. It is also recommended that you direct D/DCI/NIPE to take actions to prove out the Study's methodology. These include review by a panel of outside experts and further testing of the methodology in conjunction with the appropriate USIB committees. (I understand that an outside panel is already working on the methodology.)

6. Recommendations:

a. A memo to the Director is attached for your signature, together with a buckslip from him to [redacted] transmitting the coordinated text of a Memorandum to the Holders of the GMAIC report. STA

b. A buckslip memo to D/DCI/NIPE is attached for your signature transmitting the Agency comments on the NIPE Study and directing him to undertake the actions recommended by the Agency.

[redacted] STA

EA/DDCI

Attachments as stated.

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